GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
ABSTRACT

Public Services – Forest Department – Allegation of Corruption against Sri Shaik Asif Shariff, formerly Forest Range Officer, Forest Range Office (Territorial), Eluru, West Godavari District – Trapped on 29-04-2013 – Sanction of Prosecution under the Prevention of Corruption Act,1988- Orders - Issued.

ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS, SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY (SEC.IV) DEPARTMENT

G.O.Ms.No:80 **Dated:03-08-2016.**

ORDER:-

WHEREAS, Sri Shaik Asif Shariff, S/o. Mahaboob Shariff, worked as Forest Range Officer, Forest Range Office (Territorial), Eluru West Godavari District from 25.09.2010 to 29.04.2013 and by virtue of the post held by him, he falls under the category of public servant as defined under Section 2 (c) of the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988.(Act 49 of 1988)

2. AND WHEREAS, Sri. Raghavaraju Aadi Vishnu, S/o. Venkateswara Rao, Resident of Vegavaram(V), Jangareddygudem(M), West Godavari District is doing teak wood business.

3. AND WHEREAS, it is alleged that Sri. Raghavaraju Aadi Vishnu purchases teakwood trees from the farmers and sells after getting them cut into pieces. As a part of his business, two months prior to 29.4.2013, he purchased 80 teakwood trees from one Kandimalla Murali Mohan Rao of Vadlapatlanutanam Village, Kamavarapukota Mandal. He submitted an application along with required documents and challan to the Divisional Forest Officer (Territorial), Eluru with a request to grant permission for cutting the above teakwood trees, who sent the same to the Divisional Forest Officer, Territorial, Eluru for enquiry and report. As there was no response from the Forest Range Officer, Eluru, when Sri Raghavaraju Aadi Vishnu approached Sri Shaik Asif Shariff 20 days prior to 29.4.2013 and enquired about his work, he demanded Rs.6,000/- bribe for conducting an enquiry and sending favourable report to higher officials. Again, on 12.04.2013 when Sri Raghavaraju Aadi Vishnu met Sri Shaik Asif Shariff and enquired about his work, he reiterated his demand of bribe for conducting an inquiry immediately and sending favorable report and also stated that he would not submit report with favourable remarks unless the bribe amount is given. When Sri Raghavaraju Aadi Vishnu expressing his inability to pay the bribe amount, Sri Shaik Asif Shariff negotiated the same, reduced the bribe to Rs.4,000/- and gave ultimatum that he would forward the file as and when the bribe is paid. Having no other option, Sri Raghavaraju Aadi Vishnu, reluctantly agreed to give the bribe amount and reported the same to DSP, ACB, Eluru, who after observing procedural formalities, registered Cr.No.04/RCT-EWG/2013 on 29.04.2013 at 14.15 hours and made arrangements for laying trap.

4. AND WHEREAS, after completion of pre trap proceedings the trap party left to the vicinity of the office of Sri Shaik Asif Shariff on 29.04.2013, and Sri Raghavaraju Aadi Vishnu met Sri Shaik Asif Sharif who further demanded and accepted the bribe amount of Rs.4,000/- through Sri Mekatikousu Radha Krishna, Night Watchman, O/o the Forest Range Officer. The chemical test conducted on the fingers of both the hands of Sri Mekatikousu Radha Krishna who received bribe amount on behalf of Shaik Asif Shariff yielded positive results. The chemical test conducted on the fingers of both the hands of Sri Shaik Asif Shariff yielded negative results. In pursuance of the information furnished by Sri Mekatikousu Radha

Krishna, the tainted amount of Rs.4,000/- was recovered from his upper left side shirt pocket. When compared, the serial numbers of the recovered currency notes were found tallied with those of the serial numbers of the currency notes handed over by Sri Raghavaraju Aadi Vishnu during pre-trap proceedings. The chemical test conducted on the inner linings of upper left shirt pocket of Sri Mekatikousu Radha Krishna also yielded positive result. The DSP searched Sri Mekatikousu Radha Krishna and found an amount of Rs.31,835/- and a paper containing names of 7 timber Depots with details of amount against each name. The DSP seized the tainted amount of Rs.4,000/-, unaccounted amount of Rs.31,835/- and white paper containing names of 7 timber Depots., resultant solutions, shirt of Sri Mekatikousu Radha Krishna etc., examined the witnesses and seized relevant records. He also prepared rough sketch of the scene of offence.

5. AND WHEREAS, the above said acts of Sri Shaik Asif Sharif, formerly Forest Range Officer, Forest Range Office (Territorial) Eluru, West Godavari District constitute the offences punishable under sections 7 and 13(d) read with section 13(2) of the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 and section 34 Indian Penal Code.

6. AND WHEREAS, the Government of Andhra Pradesh, being the competent authority to remove the said Sri Shaik Asif Sharif, formerly Forest Range Officer, Forest Range Office (Territorial) Eluru, West Godavari District from service, after fully and carefully examining the material (i.e. FIR, Mediator Reports, Statements of Witnesses, made up files, Final Report, explanation of Sri Shaik Asif Shariff etc.,) placed before them, in respect of the said allegations and having regards to the facts and circumstances of the case consider that the said Sri Shaik Asif Sharif, formerly Forest Range Officer, Forest Range Office (Territorial) Eluru, West Godavari District should be prosecuted in a court of law for the afore said offences.

7. Now, therefore, in exercise of the powers conferred under Clause (b) of sub-section (1) of section 19 of the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988, (Act 49 of 1988) and section 197 of the Criminal Procedure Code, 1973 the Government of Andhra Pradesh hereby accord sanction for the Prosecution of the aforesaid Sri Shaik Asif Shariff, formerly Forest Range Officer, Forest Range Office (Territorial), Eluru, West Godavari District for the above said offences punishable under sections 7 and clause (d) of sub-section (1) of section 13 read with sub section (2) of section 13 of the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988(Act 49 of 1988),read with section 34 IPC and for any other cognate offences punishable under any other provisions of Law for the time being in force in respect of the aforesaid acts and for taking cognizance of the said offences by a court of competent jurisdiction.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)

Dr. P.V.RAMESH
SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

To
The Director General, Anti-corruption Bureau,
Andhra Pradesh, Hyderabad.
Copy to:
The Law (G) Department.
SF/SC.